

EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE
ANNUAL REPORT 2008 REPORT

The year 2008 has been an incredible journey of resilience, sacrifice and courage. With a start-up financial base of almost nothing, since inception in April 2008, EWEI has been active under the following programmes:

EWEI NEWS : Our free bi-monthly colourful newsletters that contain political, educational, health, financial and other articles for girls/women's benefit is currently distributed in 6 states of the federation Kaduna, Plateau, Niger, Kano, Sokoto and Rivers states. It is now being circulated in Amman, Jordan and we are constantly exploring new regions to distribute. The newsletters are topical, colourful and contain articles in the local social language of where it is most widely distributed. So far over 3,000 copies have been distributed, free in 2008. An online version is also available by clicking the link on our site or going direct to the newsletter site: www.eweinews.wetpaint.com.

EWEI Online: the EWEI wiki and website were launched to give many more access to EWEI's activities and resources and encourage I.T. Literacy among women.
www.ewei.wetpaint.com

Empowerment Seminars and Step Downs : Since inception, two Empowerment Seminars at Prince College, Narayi and Beijing International School where a total of 99 female students and 38 adults participated and were enlightened on HIV/AIDS awareness, Making early wise choices, Excelling in your chosen career, Your role in Governance, MDG awareness.

PAST AND ONGOING PROJECTS

CHARITY AND ADVOCACY :VISIT TO DU-MERCI CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative (EWEI) paid a visit to an orphanage, Du Merci Children Development Ministry on the 21st of May, 2008. The Program Director, EWEI, Safiya Ibn Garba in her address during the visit said the organisation is not only making efforts towards empowering women for excellence, but to also reach out to the needy and less privileged in the society through charitable organizations such as Du Merci Children Development Ministry.

She added that the items donated were meant to support the ministry in fulfilling their aims and objectives. In his response to the gesture, Dr. Solomon Tarfa, CEO Du Merci Children Development Ministry, expressed his appreciation for the donation saying it was a blessing from God. He also called on well meaning Nigerians and organizations to come out and support the ministry towards realizing her aims and objectives. Some of the items that were donated includes a bag of rice, carton of spaghetti, detergent, packs of beverage, pampers, washing soap, cheese balls, perfumed jelly, sugar, salt, fruit drinks, milk, etc.

EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE COURTESY VISIT TO HONOURABLE YUSUF SHEHU MAKARFI, COMMISSIONER OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS, KADUNA STATE

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative paid a courtesy call on the Honourable Commissioner for Non-Governmental Organisations and Student Affairs Alh. Yusuf Shehu Makarfi on the 1st of July, 2008 at the State House Kawo, Kaduna at 10.30 am. The EWEI team was warmly received by the Honourable Commissioner and the Special Adviser to His Excellency Arc. Namadi Sambo on NGOs and Student Affairs; Mr. Lekwot.

After a brief introduction of the EWEI delegation, Safiya Ibn Garba formally introduced

the organization and intimated the Commissioner on the aims and objectives of the initiative, she also told the Commissioner about the various ways in which the organisation hoped to achieve her aims and objectives.

She presented the maiden newsletter of the organisation, EWEI NEWS which highlighted the activities of the organisation as well as carries a lot of helpful articles and resources for women. She asked for the Government's support in the activities and programmes of EWEI.

The Honourable Commissioner in his response was very impressed with the initiative and said that the activities of the organisation are in line with the programmes of the administration of His Excellency, Arc. Namadi Sambo, the Governor of Kaduna State. He said that the government was very interested in NGOs that work to support the work of the administration and was interested in exploring areas of collaboration between his ministry and EWEI.

EWEI NEWS : 3,000 copies of our free bi-monthly colourful newsletters that contain political, educational, health, financial and other articles for girls/women's benefit have been distributed in 5 states of the federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. The states are Kaduna, Plateau, Niger, Kano and Rivers states. It was also circulated in Amman, Jordan. The newsletters are topical, colourful and contain articles in the local social language of where it is most widely distributed. An **online version** is also available by clicking the link on our site or going direct to the newsletter site: www.eweinews.wetpaint.com.

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EMPOWERMENT SEMINARS:

EMPOWERMENT SEMINAR ORGANISED BY EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE (EWEI) HELD AT PRINCE SCHOOLS, NARAYI HIGH COST, KADUNA ON 4TH JULY, 2008 AT 10.00AM

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative held her maiden Empowerment Seminar at Prince Schools, Narayi, High Cost, Kaduna on the 4th of July, 2008. The Seminar started at 10.00am with registration of participants and an opening address was delivered at 10.30am by the Program Director, Safiya Ibn Garba. The seminar featured talks by Dr. Solomon Tarfa (HIV/AIDS Awareness and Prevention), Mrs. Mercy Tarfa (represented by Engr. Ambrose Olalehin- Making Early Wise choices), Engr. Daisi Oke (Excelling in your chosen career), and Mrs. Vicki Gani (represented by Safiya Ibn Garba - Your role in Government). The seminar was graced by the presence of the Honourable Commissioner, Non-Governmental Organisations and Student Affairs Hon. Alh. Yusuf Makarfi and the Special Adviser to His Excellency Gov. Namadi Sambo on NGOs, Mr. Peter Lekwot.

There was an attendance of 82 female students age range of 8- 20, 7 teachers, 3 members of the press, 3 facilitators and 8 special guests and invitees.

EMPOWERMENT SEMINAR AT BEIJING INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, 12 SALIM CRESCENT, OFF MALLE STREET, KAWO NEW EXTENSION, KADUNA AND DEBATE TO ACTION STEP DOWN EXTENSION SEGMENT ORGANISED BY EWEI

EWEI held an Empowerment Seminar at Beijing International School, 12 Salim Crescent off Malle Street, Kawo New Extension, Kaduna on the 17th of September, 2008.

The seminar featured four segments:

Making Early Wise Choices : Facilitated by EWEI Program Director, Safiya Ibn Garba, HIV/AIDS Awareness and Prevention: Facilitated by Ms. Alaba Aluko, a HIV Counsellor with International Centre for AIDS Treatment and Care Program (ICAP) and deployed to Barau Dikko Specialist Hospital Kaduna who is HIV Positive herself, the participants were sensitized about HIV/AIDS and prevention. Excelling in Your chosen Career: Facilitated by Engr. Samson Olayinka Olajide, Chief Executive Officer, Sonite Communications and Your role in Governance Featuring the Millennium Development Goals Awareness: Jointly facilitated by Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative (EWEI), Nasrul-Lahi-I-Faith Society of Nigeria (NASFAT), Living Faith Foundation (LFF) and Nigerian Airforce Youth Awareness Forum (NAYAF) each organization spoke about one of the MDGs. This segment was part of the Debate to Action Step Down Extension Program. There was an attendance of 17 Students with age range of 8-14 years old and 17 adults of various professions including 5 members of the press. Age range of 27 to 50 years.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND COLLABORATIONS:

- EWEI is involved in the Debate to Action which is a British Council/World Bank Institute capacity building programme on MDG and PRSP awareness (Kaduna, 25th-28th August, 2008) and is currently in the implementation of her step down programme as well as the DTA Kaduna Cluster One programme Tafawa Balewa Inn, Kaduna
- North-West Zonal Consultative forum by National Assembly/UNDP on Inclusive budgetting in Kaduna, (9th-10th September, 2008) at Assa Pyramid Hotel.
- National Democratic Institute's Seminar on Effective Advocacy in the National Assembly (Kaduna, 10th September, 2008), Assa Pyramid Hotel.
- National Democratic Institute's Analysis of the Implementation of the 2008 Budget & Anticipating the 2009 Budget Process Calabar, 4th - 6th December, 2008)
- Generations for Peace Camp 08 (Amman, Jordan, 25th November- 5th December, 2008),
- 3 day retreat organized by the House of Representatives Committee on Rules and Business in collaboration with the Policy Analysis and Research Project (PARP) and National Democratic Institute for International Studies (NDI) on Standardization of Standing Orders of the National and State Houses of Assembly from the 14th-16th of January, 2009 at the Nicon Luxury Hotel, Abuja
- Launching of the 2008 Open Budget Index organized by the Centre for Public Private Cooperation in collaboration with, and funding support from The Centre on Budget and Policy priorities, Integrated Social Development Centre (ISODEC), Implementation Committee UNDP Support programme to the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (ICUSPN) at Reiz Continental Hotel Abuja on the 10th of February, 2009 at 9.00am
- A one day dialogue with CSOs on the National Health Bill as organized by the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs and the House of Representatives Committee on Health on the 18th of February, 2009 at Protea Hotel Asokoro, Abuja at 9.00am
- A collaborative effort with Unicef "C" Field Office Kaduna at the Zonal Meeting to unveil the new country plan to Unicef Focal persons from State Ministries of Education, Colleges of Education and Girl Education projects from 8 northern States and the FCT in Katsina on the 23rd -25th February, 2009.

- National meeting to set up agenda for Nigerian Girl's Education Initiative at Hamdala Hotel, Kaduna on 17th-20th May, 2009.
- Presentation at ANOCA 13th General Assembly 6-7th July, 2009 at Transcorp Hilton by Programme Director; Generations for Peace Nigerian Delegate.

STEP-DOWN PROGRAMMES

World Bank/British Council: Getting Involved: EWEI's step down programme of the Debate to Action (Getting Involved seminar Prince College 18th September, 2008, Redeemed Christian Church of God 12th October, 2008, Train the trainers 18th October, 2008(8 teachers trained expected to cascade to 726 students), EWEI NEWS Nov/Dec edition over 1,000 copies distributed, Global Fund for malaria insecticide treated mosquito nets distributed, December, 2008.)

DEBATE TO ACTION STEP DOWN EXTENSION PROGRAM ORGANISED BY EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE (EWEI)

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative (EWEI) held a "Getting Involved" seminar at Prince College, Narayi High Cost, Kaduna on the 18th of September, 2008 at 3.00pm. This was organized as part of the organisation's step down training extension program. The seminar focused mainly on MDG awareness and was targeted at getting the participants involved in the debate to action methodology- from talking about the MDGs and PRSP to active participation. In attendance were 64 Students with age range of 11-18 years old, 3 EWEI Staff and 1 Teacher.

GETTING INVOLVED: A DEBATE TO ACTION EXTENSION PROGRAM ORGANISED BY EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE (EWEI) AT PRINCE SCHOOL, NO. 1 TATURU CLOSE, SARDAUNA CRESCENT, KADUNA ON THE 18TH OF OCTOBER, 2008.

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative (EWEI) held a "Getting Involved" Seminar at Prince School, No.1 Taturu Close, Sardauna Crescent, Kaduna on the 18th of October, 2008. This program was a train the trainers seminar for the Social Studies and Government teachers. The program is intended to benefit at least 726 students from the three Prince Schools located at No. 19 Kano Road, Off Dokaje Street, Kaduna, No 18-20 Giwa Road, Narayi High Cost Kaduna and No. 1 Taturu Close, Sardauna Crescent, Kaduna. The seminar was facilitated by EWEI Program Director, Safiya Ibn Garba and focused mainly on MDG awareness and PRSP. In attendance were 8 teachers with age range of 24-35 years of age and 8 EWEI Staff/Volunteers and 2 members of the press. EWEI also used the opportunity to take part in the **STAND UP AGAINST POVERTY CAMPAIGN**

GETTING INVOLVED A DEBATE TO ACTION EXTENSION PROGRAM ORGANISED BY EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE (EWEI) AT REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD, TEENS SECTION 1B ALIYU TURAKI ROAD OFF ISA KAITA ROAD, G.R.A MALALI, KADUNA ON THE 12TH OF OCTOBER, 2008.

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative (EWEI) held a "Getting Involved" Seminar at The Redeemed Christian Church of God, Mercy Hall, Teens section at no. 1B Aliyu Turaki Road, Off Isa Kaita Road, G.R.A Malali, Kaduna on the 12th of October, 2008. The seminar was facilitated by EWEI Program Director, Safiya Ibn Garba and focused mainly on MDG awareness and PRSP. In attendance were 21 Participants with age range of 13-20 years of age and 3 Supervising adults age range from 30- 40.

EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE'S "GETTING INVOLVED" A DEBATE TO ACTION EXTENSION PROGRAMME EWEI NEWS NOVEMBER/DECEMBER EDITION

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative's November, Debate to Action step down programme is a feature of DTA and the Millennium Development Goals in the Free Bi-Monthly EWEI newsletter, EWEI NEWS. This edition featured an overview of the debate to action programme as posted on the British council website and the Millennium development goals in English and Hausa languages. These newsletters are free and simplified and are distributed in Kaduna, Zaria, Kano, Jos, Minna, Abuja and Port-Harcourt. Over 1,000 copies were distributed. In addition, EWEI NEWS was distributed in Amman, and will effectively reach readers in Jordan, UK, Canada and the United States. Over 1,000 people in over 5 states of the federation will be able to get information on DTA and the MDGs.

EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE'S "GETTING INVOLVED" A DEBATE TO ACTION STEP DOWN PROGRAM DECEMBER, 2008

EWEI procured 20 mosquito nets from the Global Fund for malaria in conjunction with Living Faith Foundation for distribution and as a means to raise awareness on the Millennium Development Goals. 20 nets were distributed to 20 families with children under 5. At least 20 people were effectively reached with the MDG message.

EWEI has started the implementation of her Generations for Peace Programme, "Let her play" which is set to step up the inclusion of girls in sports, help build their self confidence implement conflict resolution and peace building among communities in conflict.

ADVOCACY VISIT TO THE HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS ALH. YUSUF MAKARFI ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2008

An advocacy visit was made to The Honourable Commissioner, Alh. Yusuf Makarfi on the 17th of December, 2008 to intimate him on the Generations for Peace Camp and seek his ministry's support for EWEI's Generations for Peace Programmes.

Safiya Ibn Garba, a peace pioneer and Program Director of Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative, laid out the 5 month initial plan for programmes in the Let Her Play campaign which is designed to step up girls' involvement in sport, provide an all-inclusive environment for children from different religious and social divides to come together and play. It is also designed to revive sports programmes in several schools and establishments.

The Commissioner was very impressed with the Generations for Peace concept and advised us to find a way to make maximum use of the National Sports Festival Kada 09 coming up in February in Kaduna State to raise awareness for Generations for Peace. The Commissioner was presented with some Generations for Peace postcards as a gift.

LET HER PLAY AT CAPITAL TV, KADUNA STATE MEDIA CORPORATION, CHECHENYA MARKET KADUNA ON THE 7TH OF JANUARY, 2009 AT 8.00AM

Generations for Peace featured in a Television programme "Kaduna Today" on the 7th of January, 2009 at Capital TV, KSMC Chechenya market Kaduna.

Kaduna Today is a news and current affairs programme aimed at the grassroots and communities that features current news events and issues for discussion. The programme airs on weekdays from 8.00-9.00 am and is beamed on 154 UHF. The

programme has the capacity of reaching at least 4,000,000 people (Kaduna state has a population of 6,066,562).

It was presented by Akilu A. Atiku the acting Director News, Capital TV and the producer of the programme, Hajiya Hadiza Bayero Aliyu. The discussion sessions featured Safiya Ibn Garba of Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative a camp 08 graduate and delegate, who talked about the organizations various projects including the Generations for Peace programme, "Let Her Play" during the discussion segment of the programme. The level of credibility of the project was heightened as result of media coverage

LET HER PLAY: A GENERATIONS FOR PEACE PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE FOR VOLUNTEER COACHES AND VOLUNTEERS, AT COLLAB RESTAURANT, NO.X9 FATIMA GUEST HOUSE, KATSINA ROAD, KADUNA.ON THE 13TH AND 14TH OF JANUARY, 2009. Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative {EWEI} held a two-day seminar "working with children" for volunteer coaches and volunteers as part of its five month sporting activities for Let Her Play. The seminar in which the facilitator engaged the participants in interactive discussion and practical is meant to help them know how to work with children, able and differently able to help revive sporting activities in our schools and communities, tackle issues like gender marginalization in sport, religion and ethnic divides.

The seminar was facilitated by EWEI Programme Director, Safiya Ibn Garba and focussed mainly on working with children using the working with children module from the Generations for Peace camp 08.. In attendance were 7 coaches 5 volunteers and 4 EWEI staff who are all going to be part of the Let Her Play sports sessions. Some coaches and volunteers interviewed at the end of the seminar were glad to be part of the project and learnt a lot about how to work with children.

LET HER PLAY': A GENERATIONS FOR PEACE PROGRAM ORGANIZED BY EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE. HELD AT NO.18- 20, GIWA ROAD, NARAYI HIGH COST, KADUNA. ON THE 28TH OF JANUARY 2009.

EWEI organized a sports session for the student's of Prince Schools Narayi on the 28th of January 2009 at the school's premises No. 18-20 Giwa road, Narayi high cost Kaduna between 4.00 and 6.00pm.

A total number of seventy six (76) students participated within the age range of 10-19 years. The number of girls was 24 and the number of boys at 52. The games played by the students were football, table tennis and volley ball. 15 coaches and volunteers were present.

LET HER PLAY GENERATIONS FOR PEACE SPORTS SESSION HELD AY PRINCE NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL, 18-20 GIWA ROAD, NARAYI HIGH COST KADUNA ON 30TH JANUARY 2009 BY ENPOWERING WOMEN FOR EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE

The "Let Her Play" Generations for Peace sporting session organized by EWEI for pupils of Prince nursery and primary school took place at the school premises ,18-20 Giwa road behind NNPC quarters Narayi high cost, Kaduna on the 30th of January 2009 from 8.30-10.30 am. The students engaged in five different sports including volleyball, football, table tennis, bowling and golf.A total number of sixty two students participated, out of which 37 were female and 25 boys. On hand to assist the pupils were 15 coaches and volunteers.

“LET HER PLAY” A GENERATIONS FOR PEACE PROGRAMME SPORTING SESSION HELD AT UNCLE BADO SECONDARY SCHOOL 29, NEW DAWAKI ROAD, OFF SULTAN ROAD, UNGWAR SARKI G.R.A KADUNA, NIGERIA

Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative held a Generations for Peace sports session at Uncle Bado School on the 23rd of January, 2009 at 12noon-1.00pm.

The total number of students that participated in the sports sessions were two hundred and twenty seven (227), consisting of one hundred and twenty eight (128) boys and ninety (99) girls with age range of 10-18. About 300 more students watched the activity.

Six (6) coaches, four (4) volunteers and Five (5) EWEI volunteers all worked with the children as trainers and 6 (six) members of the press from Gaskiya Ta Fi Kwabo Newspapers (Hausa), New Nigerian Newspapers, Daily trust Newspapers, New Democrat Newspapers, News page Newspapers(English), Capital TV (Electronic).

At the end of the Extra Curricular Master, Mr. Benjamin Imoh) commended EWEI and Generations for Peace for their exceptional work and was happy to say that they were going to make a case for such a programme to be inculcated in the school curriculum. He spoke about the need for more programmes like this to help bridge ethnic, political, gender and religious divides which is very needful in our society today he said.

LET HER PLAY SPORTS SESSION AT GRAYS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, AIRPORT ROAD, KADUNA ON THE 28TH OF MARCH, 2009

EWEI implemented a Generations for Peace project: “Let Her Play” at Grays International College, airport Road, Kaduna. Grays International School is located in Doka village, over 20km away from Kaduna metropolis. The event took place on the 28th of March, 2009 after a rescheduling of the event.

A total number of 438 students participated in the project of these, 170 were girls and 268 boys. The students were engaged in six sports: volleyball, basketball, football, table tennis, athletics and softball. Both students and teachers alike were delighted with the event.

The children were taught various team building drills and were divided into six groups, named after African rivers where they learnt to cheer their teammates and work together to achieve their common objectives.

Public Sector Partnership: EWEI has been officially registered by the Federal Government of Nigeria, Kaduna State Government Ministry of Non-Governmental Organizations and Student Affairs, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Women Affairs (pending) and Ministry of Education. The Commissioner of NGOs and Student Affairs as well as the Special Adviser on NGOs and Student Affairs have graced one of our Empowerment Seminars and most recently the appointment of the EWEI Program Director on the Advisory Committee of the Civil Society Organizations Liaison Office (CSOLO) in the National Assembly.